

### **SBA DISASTER LOANS TO INDIVIDUALS & BUSINESSES**

Disaster loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace their damaged or destroyed primary residence. Homeowners and renters are eligible to borrow up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property.

Businesses of any size and private non-profit organizations may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets. SBA can also lend additional funds to help homeowners and business owners with the cost of making improvements that protect, prevent or minimize the same type of disaster damage from occurring in the future.

For small businesses and most private, non-profit organizations, SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) of up to \$2 million to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. EIDL assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered any property damage.

SBA disaster loans cover losses not fully compensated by insurance. Call 1-800-659-2955 or visit [www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance](http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance) (TTY for hearing or speech impaired 1-800-877-8339).

### **TAX ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE**

#### **EMPLOYMENT TAX REQUEST FOR EXTENSION TO REPORT AND PAY:**

Employers who are directly affected by a state of emergency may request up to a 60-day extension to file their state payroll reports and to deposit state payroll taxes with the Employment Development Department (EDD), without penalty or interest. For further information, call EDD's Taxpayer Assistance Center at 1-888-745-3886 or visit EDD's website at: [www.edd.ca.gov](http://www.edd.ca.gov)

#### **FRANCHISE TAX BOARD:**

The Franchise Tax Board (FTB) provides guidance in obtaining tax relief for disaster casualty losses. Contact FTB at 1-800-852-5711 (TTY/TDD for hearing or speech impaired: 1-800-822-6268) or visit the website at: [www.ftb.ca.gov](http://www.ftb.ca.gov)

#### **INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE**

For information on Casualty, Disaster, and Theft Losses and other questions regarding Federal income and payroll taxes, visit the website at: <http://www.irs.gov/taxtopics/tc515.html> or contact the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) at 1-800-829-1040, (TTY: 1-800-829-4059).

#### **CALIFORNIA BOARD OF EQUALIZATION:**

For questions regarding sales and use, property and special taxes, contact the Board of Equalization at 1-800-400-7115 (TTY: 1-800-735-2929) or visit the website at: [www.boe.ca.gov](http://www.boe.ca.gov)

### **SPECIAL FEE WAIVERS AND FILING EXTENSIONS**

As a result of a disaster, the Governor may issue an Executive Order that allows special fee waivers and filing extensions for replacing important government records (i.e., birth and death, certificates, identification cards, etc.). For information specific to this disaster, you may wish to contact the following departments for additional information: Department of Motor Vehicles, California Department of Public Health, Franchise Tax Board, and/or the Board of Equalization. Contact information for each of these departments is listed in this brochure.

# **ASSISTANCE AND SERVICES FOR DISASTER RECOVERY**

## **AUGUST 2009 WILDLAND FIRES**

Los Angeles and Placer Counties Only



*This publication distributed by:*  
*California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA)*  
[www.calema.ca.gov](http://www.calema.ca.gov)

*(For individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or speech-disabled, please call the California Relay Service at 711 and ask to be put in touch with the California Emergency Management Agency at 916-845-8400.)*

## **EMERGENCY NEEDS REFERRAL**

### **THE AMERICAN RED CROSS:**

The American Red Cross (ARC) provides emergency food, clothing, shelter, and medical assistance to needy individuals and families. Contact the ARC at 1-866-GETINFO (438-4636).

If you have been affected by a disaster, "SAFE and WELL" provides a way for you to register yourself as "safe and well." From a list of standard messages, you can select those that you want to communicate to your family members, letting them know of your well-being. For more information, visit the website at: <https://disastersafe.redcross.org/>

### **THE SALVATION ARMY:**

The Salvation Army provides a variety of services including help with food, household needs, clothing and personal needs. For more information call 1-800-SALARMY (725-2769) or visit: [www.tsatoday.org](http://www.tsatoday.org)

## **INSURANCE & REBUILDING INFORMATION**

### **CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE:**

The California Department of Insurance provides assistance on insurance issues, such as claim handling delays, additional living expenses, underinsurance disputes, etc. The Insurance Commissioner wants to make sure that the claim process moves as smoothly and as quickly as possible and that any underinsurance issues are investigated. If you are experiencing difficulty with the processing of your claim or wish to have an underinsurance issue investigated, contact the officers at the Department's Consumer Hotline at 1-800-927-HELP (4357) for assistance. You may also wish to visit the Department's Web site at: [www.insurance.ca.gov](http://www.insurance.ca.gov) and click on "Wildfires Consumer Information" section for additional information.

### **CONTRACTORS STATE LICENSE BOARD:**

The Contractors State License Board (CSLB) verifies contractor licenses, investigates complaints, and provides helpful information about hiring a licensed contractor. For information on hiring or filing a complaint regarding a contractor, disaster victims may call CSLB's Disaster Hotline M-F from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. at 1-800-962-1125, or the 24-hour automated telephone response system, 1-800-321-CSLB (2752). Licenses can also be checked online at: [www.cslb.ca.gov](http://www.cslb.ca.gov).

## **DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES**

The California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) can respond to questions and provide the forms needed to assist individuals in replacing DMV documents, such as drivers licenses, identification cards, vehicle registration certificates and certificates of title, that were lost as a result of the disaster. Call 1-800-777-0133 or visit the website at <http://www.dmv.ca.gov/>

## **HEALTH CARE SERVICES**

### **CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) is working with those who have lost vital records as a result of the disaster. Birth, death, and marriage records should be requested from the county recorder's office in the county where the event occurred (visit <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/certific/birthdeathmar/Pages/CountyRecorderOffice.aspx> for a list of county recorders). For faster service, victims should indicate the name of the disaster on the outside of the envelope and on the top of the forms when requesting vital records. Call 916-445-2684 or visit: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/certific/birthdeathmar/Pages/default.aspx>

### **HEALTH INFORMATION:**

For information on health concerns related to the fire, please visit the California Department of Public Health website at: <http://www.bepreparedcalifornia.ca.gov>

### **HEALTHY FAMILIES PROGRAM:**

The Healthy Families Program (HFP) provides low-cost comprehensive health, dental and vision coverage to uninsured children and teens whose family income is too high to qualify for Medi-Cal. For a copy of the HFP Handbook & application, please call toll free 1-800-880-5305 or visit: <http://www.healthyfamilies.ca.gov>

### **MEDI-CAL HEALTH COVERAGE:**

Medi-Cal is a public health insurance program that provides comprehensive medical, dental and vision care coverage to low-income individuals, including families with children, seniors, persons with disabilities, pregnant women and low-income people with specific diseases, such as tuberculosis, breast cancer or HIV/AIDS. For more information, contact your county welfare/social services department. To find your local office visit the website at: <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/medi-cal/Pages/CountyOffices.aspx>

### **CRISIS COUNSELING:**

Short-term counseling may be available for emotional or mental health problems caused by the impacts of the fire. For more information, visit the website at: [www.dmh.ca.gov](http://www.dmh.ca.gov)

## **EMPLOYMENT SERVICES**

### **UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE:**

Provides weekly unemployment insurance payments for workers who lose their job through no fault of their own. If you are unemployed, or working less than full time, have a legal right to work in the United States, and are ready, willing, and able to work, you may be eligible to receive unemployment insurance benefits. Administered by the California Employment Development Department (EDD). English: 1-800-300-5616; Spanish: 1-800-3268937; TTY: 1-800-815-9387. For more information, visit the website at: [www.edd.ca.gov](http://www.edd.ca.gov).

### **JOB SERVICES:**

Job seekers and employers will find a wide variety of employment services offered by EDD and local partners at One-Stop Career Centers and EDD Workforce Services Offices throughout the state. Using these job search and training services, job seekers with a legal right to work in the U.S. can connect with thousands of available jobs through the automated system CalJOBS. For more information, visit EDD's website at: [www.edd.ca.gov](http://www.edd.ca.gov)

## **ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

### **FOOD STAMP PROGRAM:**

If you have been affected by the fire and are in need of food assistance due to a loss of income, you can apply for benefits through the Food Stamp Program from your local county welfare/social services office. For more information visit the website at: [www.cdss.ca.gov/foodstamps/](http://www.cdss.ca.gov/foodstamps/)

### **CALWORKS:**

CalWORKs provides cash aid to eligible needy California families to help pay for housing, food, and other necessary expenses. For information contact your local county welfare/social services department. To find your local office visit the website at: <http://www.cwda.org/links/chsa.php> or for more information on this program, visit the cash aid website at: <http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/cdssweb/PG54.htm>

## **WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM:**

The Woman, Infants, and Children (WIC) program helps low-to-moderate-income pregnant women, new mothers and their babies and young children to eat well and stay healthy. WIC provides:

- Special checks to buy healthy foods such as milk, juice, eggs, cheese; and starting in October 2009-- fruits, vegetables, baby foods and whole grains;
- Information about nutrition and health;
- Breastfeeding support and referrals to health care and community services.

For more information, visit the website at: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/wicworks/Pages/default.aspx> and click on "Find a Local WIC Agency" under Program Information.

## **SERVICES FOR SENIORS:**

The California Department of Aging contracts with and provides leadership and direction to Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) that coordinate a wide array of services to seniors and adults with disabilities. You can locate an AAA in your area by calling 1-800-510-2020 or visit the website at: [http://www.aging.ca.gov/local\\_aaa/AAA\\_listing.asp](http://www.aging.ca.gov/local_aaa/AAA_listing.asp)

## **VETERANS ASSISTANCE**

### **CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS:**

If you have a California Department of Veterans Affairs (CALVET) loan and have suffered damage caused by a disaster, contact CALVET at 1-800-952-5626.